

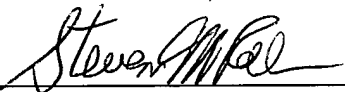
REMARKS

Examination on the merits of the foregoing new and amended claims 5 - 21 respectfully is requested.

Should any fee be required, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

December 29, 2004
Date


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SMR:pjl